



**Arcade Comprehensive Plan
Steering Committee
Meeting Notes**

**August 8, 2023; 6:30 pm
Village Hall**

I. Review Prior Meeting Notes

The committee received meeting notes as part of the agenda distribution. All members present concurred that the notes were accurate. Emma Falkenstein advised that MRB Group would add the meeting notes to the comprehensive plan website.

II. Community Profile & Strategic Communication Plan Update

Emma Falkenstein provided an update on the strategic communication plan and community profile. She noted that both documents have received approval from DOS. Emma stated that with DOS approval, the Steering Committee and consultant team can move forward with the public engagement process. Emma notes that Roxanne and the consultant team are working on materials for the public hearing in September.

The Steering Committee engaged in discussion regarding increasing participation from Town leadership. James Bragg, a senior planner with Wyoming County, mentioned that he would reach out to the Town Supervisor at their next meeting.

This document was prepared with funding provided by the New York State Department of State Environmental Protection Fund.

III. Visioning & Values Exercise + Priority Policy Area Discussion (Round 2)

Following up on the prior month's vision & values session, Emma Falkenstein reviewed the intentions behind the visioning process for Arcade's comprehensive plan. She emphasized how the plan's vision statement should be both authentic and aspirational for where the Steering Committee hopes Arcade will be in 2045. She noted that the vision statement is supported by the plan's planning principles that will guide how the Village and the Town evaluate decisions and opportunities based on their alignment with the comprehensive plan. The vision and planning principles provide a foundation for the rest of the plan.

Following the overview of the importance of the visioning and values process, Emma Falkenstein and James Reynolds led the Steering Committee through a series of thought prompts to dissect what Steering Committee members love and value about Arcade. The Steering Committee engaged in discussion regarding the aspects of Arcade they really like, potential aspects of the community that might prohibit resident retention, and key areas they hope the Village and Town will cultivate over the next two decades.

The following is a summary of the main themes from the vision/values exercise:

What people love about Arcade:

- Large Arcade vs. Small hamlet
- Trail
- Hardworking community
- Loyal community/community pride
- Outdoor recreation → Winter Fest Tradition
- More diversity than surrounding communities
- Agricultural industry
- Safe community
- Accessible location → proximity to region
- Resource-rich for a small town
- Affordable electric rates & reasonable sales tax
- Good school district

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- Youth activities and good parks

Following discussion of the positive character aspects of Arcade, the Steering Committee brainstormed potential priority policy areas. The policy areas will be the “big chunky themes” the comprehensive plan will target.

Potential Priority Policy Area Themes

- Infrastructure Expansion
- Housing growth & diverse housing options
- Active Recreation as development
- Promote & maintain industrial agricultural growth

IV. Activity Prior to Next Meeting

The consultant team will draft vision and values statements for the steering committee to review and edit. The consultant team will prepare materials for the public forum.

V. Other Business

VI. Next Meeting

September 12, 2023 at the Arcade Village Hall – Public Forum

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